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SUBJECT

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. On 16 Apr 54, the 132nd Regiment of a Motorized and Armored Division arrived at Baisum [sic]. It came from an unidentified locality in the West.
2. The 96th Tank Regiment is now at Sarmake [sic]. It is equipped with 12- and 8-ton tanks. The troops are Cossacks, Ukrainians, and Crimeans. They are believed to have been brought in from the East, but their last post has not been definitely identified.
3. A large military airfield is being finished at Kabarmansky (south of Durdalyk). The planes are in underground shelters. An area 25 kilometers square around the field is under guard as a prohibited zone. Motor trucks arrive every day with boxes of heavy matériel not otherwise identified.
4. Foreign specialists (including mostly, if not entirely, Germans and Czechoslovaks) arrived at Moukouja (Signakhi) on 18 Apr 54. They will work on airplane motors in the aviation factories. Other foreign experts, whose exact nationality is not known, have arrived at Lagodekhi, north of Signakhi. They are employed in recently constructed shops where airplane parts are being made. More than eight hundred workers are employed in these shops, including women.
5. Nationalist resistance forces continue to harass the Communist Government at every opportunity. On 19 Apr 54 Behram Serdarov, the new Georgian leader of Communist Youth, was assassinated. He had just been appointed to office. There have already been reprisals against the Nationalists here. The next day (20 Apr 54) there was an explosion in the Communist center of Koyunkujer, north of Merv. Since the explosives went off in the early hours of the morning, only a watchman and some relatives were injured. It is understood that a meeting was to have been held later that day. The authorities have offered a large sum of money and other gifts to any one who can provide information. Thus far no one has come forward.

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